

AGENDA

GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS INTERIM COMMITTEE

UTAH LEGISLATURE

Wednesday, September 19, 2007 • 9:00 a.m. • Room W025 House Building

Approximate
Time Frame

9:00 1. Committee Business

- Call to order
- Approval of the minutes of the July 18, 2007 meeting

9:05 2. State Government Efficiency Efforts

Currently, the following initiatives are underway to increase the efficiency of state government: (1) The Governor's Balanced Scorecard Initiative which is a performance evaluation tool being implemented in all state agencies; (2) The Department of Administrative Services Strategic Plan to deliver support services of the "highest quality" and "best value" to government agencies and the public; and (3) a state-wide strategic planning effort to extend strategic planning and customer service to all state agencies. What are these initiatives? How are they being implemented? What is the status of their implementation? What results are expected? How can the Legislature help?

- John E. Nixon, Office of Planning and Budget
- Michael Mower, State Planning Coordinator
- Marvin L. Dodge, Department of Administrative Services

9:45 3. Voter Designation of Political Party Affiliation for Primary Elections -- Sunset Review

Section 20A-2-107.5 allows a voter to designate or change political party affiliation at the polling location in order to vote in a regular primary election. This section is repealed July 1, 2008 (see Section 63-55b-120). If it is repealed, unaffiliated voters who wish to vote in a closed primary election will have to designate their political party affiliation with the county clerk 30 days prior to the primary election. During the April 18th meeting the Committee heard testimony from the two major parties. One of the parties asked to have more time to develop a recommendation on the issue. Should this section be reauthorized or should it be allowed to sunset?

10:15 4. Election Law Changes from the County Clerks

During the July 18th meeting a representative of the county clerks recommended a number of changes to Title 20A, Election Code. The chairs asked the county clerks to provide a list to the committee staff and prepare it for consideration at a future meeting. The county clerks were also asked to prioritize their recommendations to facilitate review by the Committee. The clerk's list was provided and the committee staff prepared a handout offering an analysis of the proposals for the meeting.

- Scott L. Hogensen, Association of County Clerks

11:00 5. Ombudsman Functions

During the June 20th meeting the Committee heard from current ombudsmen that are created in Utah statute. Ombudsman generally provide information, investigation, and mediation to assist citizens and agencies in resolving disputes with the provision of government services. Should ombudsman type functions be expanded to assist citizens? What options are available to address this issue?

- Lorna Koci, Utah Food Bank Services

11:45 6. Other Items / Adjourn